





## News in a flash

The UN system is working collectively to make 1998 a high profile year at the time of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. While the promotion and protection of civil and political rights are doing well, there are major human rights breakdowns with the growth in poverty, increasing gender disparities and more street children.

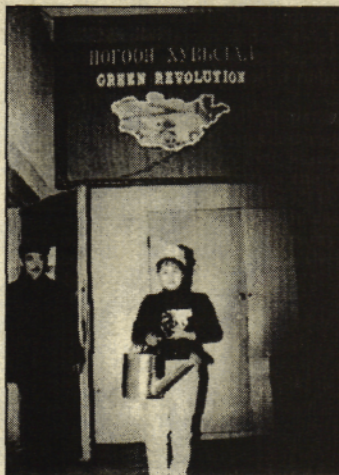
A framework is being formulated to: (i) ground the conceptual grasp and the policy coverage of development as a human right and poverty as a human rights abuse; and (ii) outline how current UN-sponsored activities support national efforts in the promotion and protection of human rights in a broad development perspective. The final document should serve as a basis for a Memorandum of Understanding between the UN system and the Government of Mongolia.

On the occasion of the Foreign Investors Forum in Agro-Industry and Tourism, which was held between June 24-26 in Ulaanbaatar, CNN has been broadcasting a 30 second long advertisement about Mongolia. The advertisement about Mongolia on CNN channel will be covered 23 times till 5 June 1998.

Ministry of External Relations of Mongolia has sent a note to diplomatic missions and international organizations in Ulaanbaatar informing that HIV and Sexual Transmitted Disease test results are not compulsory for the foreigners, who applied for short/long-term registration and extension of visas.

UNDP has signed with the Government of Mongolia a US \$2.6 million project to smooth the transition to a market economy. The project will provide national and international technical assistance to 10 newly privatised companies. These companies will be selected based on detailed criteria related to economic, social and environmental concerns. The project is intended to create a more dynamic private sector in Mongolia by reforming the operations of firms, introducing modern management techniques, developing models and methodologies for future enterprise reform and training staff. Despite the rapid introduction of market reforms, many private enterprises suffer from inexperience with the market economy. The end result is that these inefficiencies continue to contribute to low production and high unemployment; two consequences of transition that the project hopes to remedy. Funds for the "Enterprise Restructuring" project are being generously provided on a cost-sharing basis with the Government of the Netherlands.

A black market seems to be taking place with old copies of the Mongolian Human Development Report. Into its second printing in both English and Mongolian, 10,000 copies of the 1997 Mongolian Human Development Report were distributed across the country last year. The report still remains a hot item and has been spotted for sale (the Report is free) at the State Department Store for Tg 2,500 (US \$3.50).



The Mongolian Government is distributing seeds, garden implements and advice at one-stop centres like this one in UB.

## 15,900 trees were planted in Ulaanbaatar in one day

It was an environmentally-friendly invasion: 15,900 trees and 13,900 bushes were planted in Ulaanbaatar on Saturday 23 May 1998 in the framework of the Government's "Green Revolution" programme. Parliament Speaker R. Gonchigdorj and Prime Minister Ts. Elbegdorj planted trees in the "Mother Complex" near the First Maternity Home. As well officials from the Health and Social Welfare Ministry and the Governor's Office of the Capital city, and students of the National Pedagogical University planted more than 160 trees such as larches, spruces and birches there.

The Governors office of the Chingeltei district of the Capital city plans to establish its own park and planted more than 130 trees in an 800 square meter field.

It was planned to spend more than Tg 2.7 million (US \$3,300) to create green areas and restore them in more than 40 fields of the capital city. Along with other donor agencies and NGOs, UNDP is supporting the Government with seeds and gardening advice.

## MicroStart project

At the request of the Government of Mongolia, Executing Agency of the project, the United Nations Development Programme has signed a contract with ACIDI/VOCA, an American NGO. Technical Service Provider in order to perform consulting services under the MicroStart Pilot project in Mongolia. A Technical Service Provider is required to supply a wide range of services, including identifying potential grantees; preparing grant proposals for the local MicroStart approval committee; staff training and workshops; advising on how to establish a board of directors as well as resource mobilization strategies and coordinating impact assessment studies.

Microstart Pilot project 1997-2000 aims at building national capacity in microfinance for the purpose of promoting microenterprise development with strong linkage to social development/poverty alleviation needs.

Main outputs: a national microfinance institution (MFI) providing technical service to other MFIs and loans to the beneficiaries; at least five local professional MFIs; 7,500 loans disbursed; 50 percent women beneficiaries by the end of the project.

## Calendar

June 30 - July 2

"Democracy and Social Development in Mongolia" National Conference

- "Poverty Alleviation Initiatives" North East Asian Sub-regional project formulation workshop is planned to be held in UB in July/August
- Within the project of Capacity building for Poverty Alleviation, NSO will organise this summer a Comprehensive Survey on Human Development (Living Standard Survey), the second of its kind in Mongolia (the first was in 1995 together with World Bank)
- UNDP contest on combating desertification and the effects of drought will close Sept. 1, with the awarding ceremony on Oct. 17

October 14-16

Intergovernmental Meeting on Tumen

River Project will be held in Ulaanbaatar

## New social policy framework

The United Nations system is working with the Government, Asian Development bank (AsDB), World Bank/IMF, NGOs and others in support of the development of new national social policy framework that upholds sustainable human development paradigms and is consistent with the nation's ongoing political and economic reforms. The inputs from UNDP on this review of social policy options will support national and international consultants, various workshops and training. An important and closely related exercise of the AsDB is to prepare technical assistance for poverty reduction - and social safety net strengthening will take place at the same time as the UNDP exercise. The UNDP-supported review of social policy options will have two phases and two related outputs: 1. Phase 1: Report on a.) the existing situation and b.) social policy options and recommendations.

At the invitation of UNDP Mongolia, Dr. Ryokichi Hirono, a well-known economist and respected in Mongolia for his long association with the Government, the UN system, the private sector and NGO/heads the team. Work began in February of 1998 on the initial steps in assisting the Government to define policy options for a new national social policy framework. The input

from Dr. Hirono as a result of his February work in Mongolia, provides a logical framework for the next step in the process and constitutes the foundation for this exercise.

The review exercise will be conducted in two phases related to the social policy options and secondly to the national social policy framework. A development economist and one of the founders of the global human development report, Dr. Hirono led the mission and the team members, including experts in social policy analysis with specializations in the fields of social services, employment and social protection. The mission was coordinated under the Prime Minister's office and worked closely with the Ministries of Health and Social Welfare, Education and Environment. It will receive periodic input from the Advisory Group of the Economic and Social Growth Think Tank and PAPO.

The papers produced by the mission will be submitted to UNDP Mongolia and the UN Executive Agency under SPPD in hard and soft copies as well as in English and Mongolian.

The mission will be working in the period from 4 May-September 1998.

Blue Sky Bulletin



## Urban poverty continues to rise



Hunger and malnutrition are pressing issues for Mongolia during the transition. These children receive three meals a week – for some the only food they can get – at a soup kitchen in the northeast of the capital, Ulaanbaatar. Many of the residents can't receive social services because they do not have permission to live in the capital. According to the government's own figures, the number of poor in the capital grew by 30,000 in 1997,

despite Tg 150 million being spent on poverty alleviation. By the end of 1997, 117,860 persons of 26,186 Ulaanbaatar households were living in conditions below level of the minimum subsistence level (MSL), according to the Capital City Statistics Service. By the level of indigence, Nalaikh is leading among the Capital city districts with 55.7 percent of its residents living under MSL. The MSL is set at Tg 10,400 per person per month. Compared to 1996, the number of beggars was up by 51.8 per cent, and the level of indigence rose 6 per cent

reaching 18.5 per cent. Poverty has increased 150 per cent since 1994.

The United Nations is currently working on a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mongolian Government on Food Security and Nutrition, two issues singled out in the 1997 Mongolian Human Development Report that threaten the health of future generations. The MOU will help to focus efforts to address the nutrition and food needs of Mongolians.

## Hot talk on new hotline

The red phone rings every minute or so and is quickly answered by a medical student surrounded by safe sex posters. Tucked away in a cramped office in downtown Ulaanbaatar is a new phenomenon for Mongolia: the telephone advice hotline. In operation since March of this year, the Adolescent Youth Hotline has received close to 400 phone calls from Mongolians seeking the latest information on sex and sexuality.

The calls can range from skin problems to depression to sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and HIV/AIDS. In one call, a cleaner was worried she could contract HIV from cleaning toilets. Four callers have wanted to commit suicide. The most common call relates to birth control and how to avoid pregnancy.

While the main target for the hotline is youth - 70 per cent are secondary school students - the counselors have received calls from all ages, including senior citizens and a seven-year-old boy.

Down the hall is a new walk-in clinic also established by the hotline's NGO, the Adolescent Futures Centre. The clinic provides free examinations and birth control like condoms.

The hotline operates from 8 am to 8pm seven days a week. Most calls are in the afternoon.

The telephone counsellors are medical students from UB's main medical school. For them working for the hotline has been an eye-opener. They receive two weeks of training before taking calls.

"I once got a call from a middle-aged man who wanted to know how to decide if he was homosexual. Homosexuality at first seemed strange but now that I have read about it, it is not so strange," says 21-year-old medical student Ms. Turnerbat. She has found most callers want a follow-up examination in the clinic.



Medical student Ms. Turnerbat talks straight on sex

The hotline was set-up by an NGO, the Adolescents Future Centre, with seed money of US \$4,500 from the United Nations. It was founded by a group of doctors, including Dr. Lkhasuren, director of the UB medical university, Dr. Altanchimeg, editor-in-chief of the Mongolian AIDS Bulletin and now with UNFPA, and gynecologist Dr. Ayush. The success of the hotline has attracted support from Ulaanbaatar's mayor, who has promised to provide additional funding.

UNAIDS, the United Nations agency to combat STDs/HIV/AIDS, has had an office based in Mongolia at the Medical University since the end of last year.

Hotline number is 312151

## News in a flash

Canadian State Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Raymond Chan, visited in late May an energy-efficient health clinic being funded on a cost-sharing basis by Canada and UNDP. The building is insulated using strawbales, an innovative building technique that gives the building extraordinary insulation. Buildings using strawbale technology have been shown to save up to 45 per cent of the budget of social services; precious funds that once went up the chimney in Mongolia's harsh continental climate. Mr. Chan's visit also included an hour-long meeting with the UNDP Resident Representative and four Canadians (including two United Nations Volunteers) working on UNDP projects. Canada has had relations with Mongolia since 1973, but only established an honorary consulate in February of this year. Mr. Chan expressed an interest in the food security situation in Mongolia and how Canada could help.

This workshop was organized by the UNDP Poverty Alleviation team and conducted by Christine Musisi, UNV Gender in Development Specialist on 15 May 1998. The aim of the workshop was to introduce gender concept to UNDP staff, discuss the importance and share understanding of gender analysis, which provides a framework by which to compare the relative advantages and disadvantages faced by men and women in various sphere of life, such as the family, the workplace, the community and political system and prepare draft gender mainstreaming strategy document of the country Office based on the suggestions and proposals of group discussions of participants on the inclusion of gender issues in all projects, program activities. Issues on what is gender, gender relations, triple role of women in the society and practical and strategic gender needs were touched during the workshop.

Kofi Annan, the Secretary General of the United Nations has sent a message to Mr. Tsahiagiin Elbegdorj, Prime Minister of Mongolia extending his congratulations and best wishes on the assumption of the office of Prime Minister of Mongolia. The UN Secretary General noted in his message that Mongolia was an active participant the United Nations' conferences of such important issues as social development, environment, children, gender and population. He stresses that the United Nations family stands to support Mongolian Government in any way possible in meeting the commitments that Mongolia has made at those conferences, as well as in achieving other mutual goals.

Mr. Amarjargal, Minister of Foreign Affairs who participated in the meeting of Ministers of the World Trade Organisation held in Geneva, Switzerland met with Ms. M. Robinson, the UN Human Rights commissioner and signed a draft document on the establishment of Human Rights Centre in Mongolia with the support of the United Nations.



Where the Steppe Meets  
the Internet  
Sustainable Development in Mongolia



United Nations Homepage: [www.un-mongolia.mn](http://www.un-mongolia.mn)  
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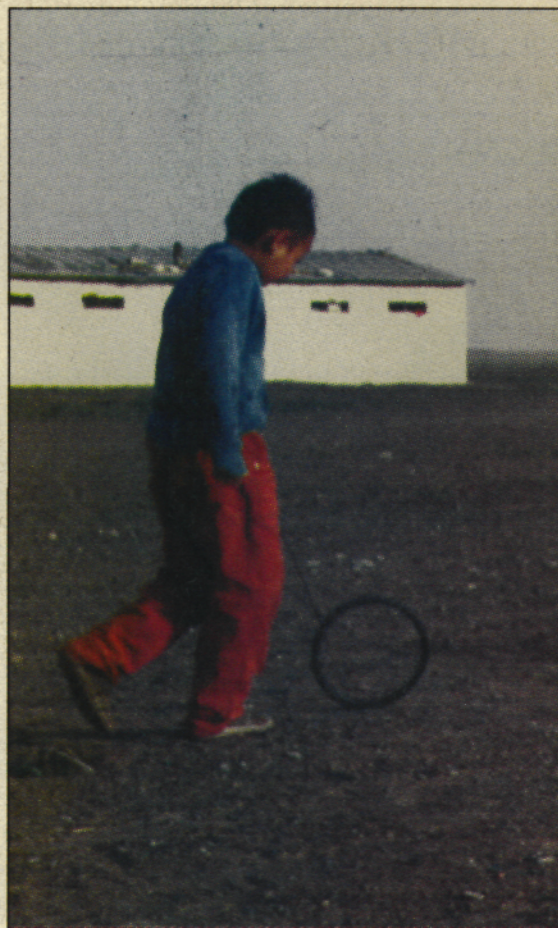


## DALANZADGAD

# Development Profile: UNDP in the Southern Gobi Desert

*Stories and photos by David South*

In late May UNDP visited its environment and poverty projects in Omnogobi or South Gobi on the border with China and in the heart of the Gobi Desert. The aimag (province) is home to 45,000 people spread over a territory of 165,000 kilometers. It is a harsh environment where temperatures can plummet to minus 40 degrees Celsius in winter and shoot up to plus 40 in summer. What is striking about the capital of Omnogobi, Dalanzadgad, is how well things are working. It is a garden capital - despite being in the desert the central boulevard is covered in trees - and trade with China has brought a prosperity for some herdsmen, many of whom buzz around the town on Planeta motorcycles. The offices of the Malchin television company are hidden by a bouquet of white satellite dishes - it is not an uncommon sight to see a ger with a satellite dish in South Gobi.



*Communities like Bulgan soum struggle to find economic opportunities in the Gobi*

## Electricity in the air - 85 women discover the Women's Development Fund

The Mongolian Human Development Report singled out South Gobi for having the highest poverty incidence in Mongolia (41.9 per cent). While this ranking is hotly debated by locals who say it is a statistical anomaly resulting from their low population, there is no question life is hard in the Gobi.

In a crowded room in the Governor's building, 85 of the poorest women in Dalanzadgad have gathered to hear about an innovative UNDP-initiated fund. The meeting, organized by the NGO the Liberal Women's Brain Pool, is introducing the Women's Development Fund. Many questions are asked as to why some of the women were passed over when the local government started distributing poverty alleviation funds.

With the assistance of the British Government who donated Tg 12 million, these women are getting a chance. The Women's Development Fund was



*85 of Dalanzadgad's poorest women learn about PAPO for the first time*

founded in partnership with the Poverty Alleviation Programme Office to take account of the unique role women have in the prosperity of families. Support is key and the women will be assisted by community activists as they develop their

project ideas and begin to implement them. In early June they started to receive funding for their projects.



## Gardens in the desert

Row after row of broken vodka bottles and pickling jars become miniature greenhouses, protecting fragile seedlings from wind and frost. A UNDP-supported project has helped to turn a piece of desert pasture land into an oasis rich in fruit, vegetables, herbs and trees. The experimental garden run by Mr. Baraduuz, author of books on gardening and a desert pioneer, is playing a key role in promoting sustainable livelihoods in the Gobi. His garden, one of several pilot projects across the country, was funded with Tg 3.9 million by UNDP under MAP-21 (Mongolian Action Programme for the 21st Century).

The garden serves several purposes, being used as a training school for local farmers, a seed/seedling bank and a repository for local herbs and trees. The trees play a key role in halting desertification - protecting soil from high winds - and act as a shelter from dust storms for local residents. Baraduuz says the over 400 streams in the Gobi could support more gardening with the right planning.

"People in this province are not as aware of cultivation since it only started in the 60s," he says. "I have proven with this garden you can grow in the Gobi. The number of people interested in this is growing every year. More and more people are asking for seedlings."

Driving north and west of Dalanzadgad towards Bulgan soum there is a striking number of gardens in operation. Near Bulgan 40 families are working on a 4.5 hectare plot for the past five years. According to farmer Mr. Enkhbat, they sell their vegetables in Ulaanbaatar, growing nine varieties including turnips, potatoes and garlic. The plots are small but profitable he says and worth leaving his government job for. He proudly remarks they have received no loans or funds from any organization. The field is surrounded by trees to protect it from wind. It is farms like this that are benefiting from Baraduuz's garden and his knowledge.



*Over 40 families work this plot of land north of Dalanzadgad*

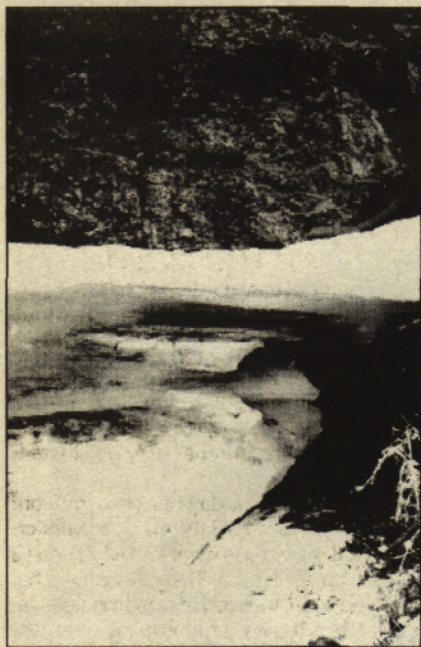


*A thriving plantation of seabuckthorn berries proves the Gobi can grow*



*These children help on the farm in South Gobi*





The ice melts in the Three Beauties Park

## Why is the ice melting?

The air is moist and cool. This may be the Gobi Desert and the hottest place in Mongolia, but it is hard to match this fact with what is before me: rich green grass and shrubbery fighting for space amongst the rocks. This is the Three Beauties mountain range - two million hectares of protected area - and home to many rare species in Mongolia, including snow leopards, Ibex or wild goats, eagles and Gobi bear. Once frozen year-round, the river at "Vulture's Mouth" in the Three Beauties park just outside Dalanzadgad has melted earlier and earlier every year. A must-see destination for the thousands of tourists who visit the

park, the hikers have played their part in slowly eroding the ice. There are also other theories including global warming and those who use the ice to make vodka.

This phenomenon holds a special place in the hearts of the local people. UNDP is helping to preserve the frozen river in the valley through EPAP. The project is working on two fronts. In the winter they flood the river to help build up the layers of ice to return the river to its original thickness. During the tourist season they inform hikers about the necessity to tread lightly when visiting this Mongolian treasure.

## Traffic signs bring safety to the streets

Cars, mostly olive green Russian jeeps, weave in and out of the five-storey apartment blocks of downtown Dalanzadgad. Running through the centre of the capital of Omnogobi is a garden boulevard, where families hide from the hot sun under trees. That one road, and the few feeding into it, are the only enforced guides for drivers. It can be seen across Mongolia - settlements criss-crossed by drivers looking for the shortest route to their destination. It doesn't help that there are no natural or manmade barriers to prevent drivers going their own way.

In Dalanzadgad a UNDP project to protect the environment from off-road driving has had an unexpected outcome: it has galvanized the community to make the streets safer by adding over 100 traffic signs. The project "Soil and Road" under UNDP's Environmental Public Awareness Programme (EPAP), started modestly. According to project director and local Khural head Mr. Byambasuren, the number of vehicles in the area shot up from 800 three years ago to 1,500 today. Most of these vehicles drive off-road, kicking up dust and destroying flora which contributes to desertification.



"The disease rate here is very high because of the dust and we have many traffic accidents involving children," says Byambasuren.

With a small grant of Tg 2.5 million from EPAP the project was able to organize workshops for local drivers where they signed a contract to not drive off-road, facing stiff penalties from the traffic police if caught.

A media campaign was also organized and posters and brochures distributed. The local traffic police were so impressed by the project they decided to chip in a further Tg 2 million to construct traffic signs and install concrete traffic calming barriers.

At first they explored the possibility of buying ready-made signs but found the costs too prohibitive. "We wanted to get signs that glowed at night but they were too expensive. We decided to make our own out of old oil drums."

In a room thick with the smell of fresh paint sits the traffic signs. They all use internationally recognized symbols and only upon closer inspection do they reveal a past life sitting on top of an oil drum. Each sign costs Tg 2,000 to make. In addition to the signs traffic calming concrete barriers have been installed in 20 places throughout Dalanzadgad.

Next year Byambasuren will target the large ger districts that surround the centre of Dalanzadgad. He has a message for any driver who doesn't obey. "We will be banging on their heads with lectures if they break the rules!" he says with a laugh.



## Environmental awareness:

# The media get the message out

By A. Delgermaa



The EPAP team: (from left) Davaasuren, Sumiya and Robert Ferguson

All the continents are masked in toxic black smoke, the rivers are polluted and full of garbage – these are the images that come to mind when Mongolian children think about the environment. It was all part of a series of paintings by children at the Eco-Olympiad sponsored by UNDP's Environmental Public Awareness Programmes with the Enlightenment (Education) Ministry.

Funded by UNDP, Netherlands and Australia, EPAP is calling back the Mongol tradition to protect nature which is under threat in this economic transition period. For some, environment takes a back seat to the pursuit of money.

EPAP has shown what can be done by mobilizing the media and the enthusiasm of NGOs and its savvy use of publicity is a model for other UNDP projects. The posters covering the EPAP office wall remind us the earth is exhaustible and we are not the only people living on it.

The two year programme has touched many people by working at the grassroots with NGOs since its inception in 1996.

About 60 small projects out of 90 have successfully finished, educating the public on how to relate with nature,

how to work with the environment and how to protect it. For instance Hatgal Women's Federation of Hovsgol aimag worked to increase public awareness of Hovsgol lake which is the pride of most Mongols – even today. The project worked with the local people who live on the shores of the lake.

"Environment issues are getting more important at the local level," says national programme officer Ms. D. Davaasuren. "We receive many proposals from NGOs and from MPs. Voters ask their representatives in government to take this issue seriously."

The media wing have chosen the most popular dailies – Ardyn Erkh and Onoodor – to encourage journalists to write about environmental issues. EPAP also works closely with the Environmental Journalist Club – a gathering of senior Mongolian journalists – at the Press Institute of Mongolia. A journalist from Onoodor (Today) newspaper is currently working on a how-to educational booklet to be distributed by radio and TV. TV and radio offer something newspapers can't in Mongolia – a truly national audience. EPAP's funds will run out in August but they hope past success will help extend the programme.

## What works in HIV/AIDS education?

By A. Delgermaa

When the news first came out in the early 1990s that a Mongolian was HIV positive, fear and ignorance left many feeling he deserved death. But today there are two official cases of HIV and the Mongolian health minister recently ventured the number may be closer to 400.

It is still early days for anybody working in the area of HIV/AIDS prevention. What messages work and what don't is still up for debate. The government has tried scare tactics in past campaigns but it has also been remarkably open and experimental as well.

The UN AIDS programme in Mongolia is funding 11 small projects by NGOs, carrying out prevention education among target groups to bridge the gap in ignorance.

Ulaanbaatar City's Women's Counsel conducts peer education campaigns with prostitutes in private hotels. The project distributes condoms, advice on how to convince their partners to use condoms.

"It is not easy to persuade their sex partners to use condoms. It takes a special approach." Ms. Kh. Enkhjargal, the national coordinator of for the UNDP-funded UNAIDS programme, notes the importance of special information to target groups.

"Gal Golomt", is targeting businessmen who come to the capital's markets looking for business and prostitutes. Once a month on average they are on business in the city and use prostitutes. The project also educates on how to prevent STDs.

All the small projects have specific goals for their target groups.

"We are educating educators and opening up a once closed topic between use and the target groups," says Enkhjargal.

The other projects are carrying out prevention education among students and in dormitories in UB, among street and homeless children in Darkhan, among military officers and soldiers.

As well behavior research of prostitutes and homosexuals, the medical treatment of STDs and advice will be handled by professional institutes within the projects' framework.

With knowledge and action, AIDS should not be a danger the project offers.



## Blue Sky on Blue Sky

Every Tuesday at 5:10 pm UNDP's plucky newsletter joins forces with Blue Sky Radio (100.9 fm) in an hour of English language news and information for those who want to learn English. It's in-depth interviews with the people behind the projects and at the heart of today's hottest issues!

## Log on to Mongolia - Our homepage just got better!

The UN homepage for Mongolia now has a full-time editor, Ms. Bayasgalan. Since its humble launch in December of last year the homepage has seen many changes. The homepage offers information on all the UN agencies in Mongolia and has a wide audience, from students to academics to business people to development workers to Mongolians living abroad. We know they are thirsty for the latest information on Mongolia and they demand the best. Some of the changes include more up-to-date news, an online magazine and a Mongolian language version of the site - more and more Mongolians get wired every day. Keep checking us out and telling us what you think!

<http://www.un-mongolia.mn>

## Arrivals/Departures

**Ms. Ch. Nasantuya**, NPO, took annual leave followed by Special Leave without Payment for a Masters degree in the USA; **Ms. B. Elbegzaya**, Secretary to DRR, left UNDP Mongolia to take her studies in USA to get Masters degree; **Ms. L. Ariunaa**, LAN Administrator, separated from UNDP Mongolia to join UNDP Project on information technology; **Mr. Tserendorj**, previously NPC of UNDP Project, will start his work as NPO in Governance Programme of UNDP, starting from July 1; **Ms. Bayasgalan** joined UN Mongolia as UN Webmaster; **UNVs Mr. Matthew Heller**, **Mr. Olaf Kanstein**, **Mr. Samarapala Vidanagamachchi**, **Mr. Mahinda Moragolle** have all completed their assignments with the Democracy and Decentralization Project; **UNV Ms. Christine Musisi** has moved to Kyrgyzstan to become a consultant for that country's poverty projects; **UNV English teacher Mr. Stephanus Barnard**, has returned to Bournemouth, England to teach foreign students.

## PRESIDENT AWARDS UNDP WORKERS WITH FRIENDSHIP MEDAL



*A proud Christine Musisi*

Ugandan-born United Nations Volunteer and gender specialist Christine Musisi received one of the highest honours bestowed upon a foreigner by the Mongolian Government: the Friendship (Nairamdal) Medal. Presented by President Bagabandi in a simple ceremony on May 22, the medal is a reflection of the deep affection and appreciation felt by Mongolians for Ms. Musisi's work.

Ms. Musisi has taken up a new assignment in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan to continue her work with UNDP and will be a consultant to their poverty alleviation projects in that country. High lights of her two-year assignment in Mongolia included her stunning performance at last October's charity concert at the Cultural Palace in which Ms. Musisi, dressed in a gold del, charmed the audience with her own interpretation of traditional Mongolian ballads. Funds raised during the concert went to support a school for the children of the blind in Ulaanbaatar. She also contributed to the formulation of the Women's Development Fund of the Poverty Alleviation Programme.

UNDP consultant Paul Oqvist from the Governance and Economic Transition Team was also awarded the Nairamdal medal.

## UN Information Shop Opens its Doors!

The UN Info Shop has something for everyone

- ☒ an extensive Development Resource Centre with the latest reports and studies
- ☒ background archives on Mongolia
- ☒ development magazines and Mongolian newspapers
- ☒ Internet access (in late summer)
- ☒ a distribution point for all UN publications in the Mongolian language
- ☒ lots of UN posters and publications in many languages
- ☒ a photo and video library on development

**If we don't have it we will try our best to find it!**

We accept letters! All letters should be no more than 200 words in length. News briefs should be a maximum of 100 words each. Field reports should not exceed 350 words. The Blue Sky Bulletin is a publication of the United Nations Development Programme in Mongolia. The newsletter is published every month (except this issue of course!). The next deadline for submissions is July 18.

Subscriptions to the newsletter are free! We can send the newsletter to you electronically, via e-mail, or by post. Just send us your address and how you would like to receive the newsletter and we will rush it out straight away.

**All submissions must be sent to the Communications Office,  
UNDP, 7 Erkhui St.,  
Ulaanbaatar,  
PO Box 49/207.**

**Telephone: (976-1) 321539.**

**Fax: (976-1) 326221.**

**E-mail: [dsouth@undp.org.mn](mailto:dsouth@undp.org.mn)**

**Please check out the United Nations Homepage at <http://www.un-mongolia.mn>**